TRIANGLE TAIKO
A Japanese Taiko Drumming Concert for K-12 Students at Duke University
Tuesday, November 16, 2010 - Baldwin Auditorium, 10-11am

PROGRAM

MATSURI- “Matsuri” means literally “Festival”. For centuries, Taiko has been featured in traditional festivals in every region of Japan. Its sound encourages dancers and shapes festival events. This arrangement is our groups own combination of traditional festival rhythms. The piece begins with an Okedo-Daiko duet.

KOREKARA- “Korekara”, which means “to begin” was composed by American Taiko players and represents the inclusive contemporary spirit of Japanese-American Taiko. Featuring jazzy syncopated rhythms and a bit of a Latin beat, you will be able to hear the difference. The piece also features Japanese bamboo flute, “Fue”.

HONEN DAIKO - “Honen” means literally “Rich Harvest”. There are many “Honen Daiko” all over Japan wherever farmers celebrate the harvest in their “Fall Fest”. The song played today has been used for more than several hundred years in Ishikawa prefecture, a well-known rice region in western Japan. Farmers drum all night long to express their joy and thank the gods for the rich harvest.

ISAMIGOMA by East Millbrook Middle School, Raleigh- East Millbrook Middle School is one of few schools in the U.S.A who apply Taiko in their regular curriculums. This piece, means “War Horse, dates back to Japanese samurai wars 450 years ago, featuring the dynamic rhythm of young cavalry horses, and was used to both encourage the samurai soldiers, as well as to keep them in step with each other. Today, this piece remains an important part of Taiko culture, and is quite often the first piece a person plays when starting to learn Taiko in Japan.

YAMATO- “Yamato” is the historic name of ancient Japan. The various rhythms of this original composition by Triangle Taiko represent the daily life of the people there.

CHICHIBU YATAI BAYASHI - The style of this piece is famous for the demands of strength and endurance it places on the drummers, who sit under the Taiko and strike it from below with large Bachi (drumsticks). It is over 300 years old and is played at a famous all-night winter festival every year in the Chichibu region. A large float carrying the Taiko players and weighing more than ten tons is pulled through the streets by over 200 participants. The small drum (Shime) sends signals to the participants pulling on the ropes.

TAIKO PLAYERS
Rocky Iwashima  Yoko Iwashima  Mari Suguro  William Burry  Terry Buck  Heather Mitchell-Buck
Shelley St. Aubin  Christine J. Firman  Kimberly Sergeant

Triangle Taiko, established in 2002, is a part of The Nippon Club of the Triangle, an NPO group. The club consists of around 25 volunteers, who are dedicated to the exploration and performances of Taiko, Japanese drum music. Please visit the web site, www.triangletaiko.org, for more information.